

Rick Frye

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23 September 2005

RECEIVED

SEP 26 2005

Public Disclosure Commission

Public Disclosure Commission

711 Capitol Way, Room 206
P.O. Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504-0908

Attn: Mr. **Tony Perkins**

Dear Mr. Perkins:

As per our telephone conversation earlier today, I'm sending to you a copy of the very recent mailing of the "Fireline News", an irregularly published propaganda effort of Vashon Island's increasingly corrupt fire board/administration.

I'm enclosing the 11" x 14", two-color mailing from the Vashon Maury Fire Dept. prominently showcasing commissioner and candidate, Sharon Lee Nicholson, who just so happens to be running for her (heretofore) appointed seat in a primary which was conducted on Tuesday the 20th of September. While there is no date shown on the mailing, please note that it indicates the dates of upcoming meetings beginning with their meeting on the 20th of September - same day as the election for which only Ms. Nicholson's seat is contested in the primary.

Please note also that these mailings (sent to all mailing addresses on Vashon) have NEVER previously highlighted individual commissioners. I find it more than a little disturbing that this woman who indicates that she has been appointed as a fire commissioner for nearly three years suddenly finds it convenient to introduce herself and hawk her "credentials" to the community so shortly before her bid for election. (I note that she was one of four candidates all seeking a single VIFR board position four years ago and was one of two candidates who was defeated in the primary.) She was appointed the following year over others who, unlike herself, had been attending meetings regularly - including the candidate who defeated her in the primary.

Another important observation concerns the fact that in spite of the election being very much on the minds of many islanders - especially the increasingly unpopular VIFR board and administration - since a majority of the board (three members of the five member board) have been appointed by what can most accurately be described as "forces very friendly to the administration" and all three of these seats are up for election in November. The observation is that they have been VERY CAREFUL to avoid ANY mention of this upcoming election (or the primary) - no doubt so as to attempt to pretend that what they are doing is something other than electioneering.

I would contend that most thinking people would expect that if this group was at all civic minded, it would have at least reminded its audience that there is an election within a day or so and encourage them to cast a vote - not for any specific candidate, but simply to exercise their franchise in this particularly sensitive election which will determine the majority of the board.

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Since including attorneys on the board (one of whom is a federal prosecutor and who arrogantly considers himself to be beyond the reach of the law, they have (usually) been careful to cross their "t's" and dot their "i's" as they continue to claim that they are operating within the letter of the law while routinely circumventing its spirit whenever they find that it suits their purposes. On occasion, they are caught in open and willful violation of the letter of the law seeming to believe that no one would notice. This took place when they appointed a new commissioner by secret ballot - a commissioner who was later arrested for DUI and who was shown to have lied to police when her husband beat up their teenager. Surprisingly, she is not running to be elected to her seat.

I am very interested in making an issue of this abuse and in filing a formal complaint. I do have copies of most of the publicly funded propaganda pieces VIFR has issued since the ouster of our long time fire chief in 2000. The "Winter 2005" issue is two pieces of glossy, 14-1/2" x 23", full color stapled in the center and folded into an eight page "booklet."

I have only one copy of most of these, but would be happy to photo copy what I have. I would suggest that your office first request copies of previous "issues" from VIFR.

Please let me know what I should do from here.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Rick Frye", with a large loop at the start and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rick Frye

Sept. 23, 2005

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Public Disclosure Commission

Jennifer,

Enclosed is the publication from our Fire District I called you about. It arrived in everyone's mail receptacle around the time of the primary election in which Sharon Lee Nicholson is engaged. This publication is a sporadic issue from our Fire District. And this "Fireline News," to the best of my memory, has never before featured any Fire Commissioner - let alone one currently running for election.

My concern is the content of the "Message from Sharon Lee Nicholson." She discusses her education, her employment, her "approach" to her "job on the Board of Commissioners," her "personal goal."

This all just appears to me to be a "vote for me" pamphlet paid for by public funds.

Please review this document (2)
and let me know what you think.
It appears this individual may be
in the November election (she
and the third place candidate in
the primary are practically tied).
I, as a tax payer here on Vashon
Island, strongly object to this
tax supported agency electioneering
on behalf of any candidate

I would appreciate it if you
would get back to me about
this issue. My contact information
is below,

Thank you.

Alice Larson
206-463-9600
las@wolfenet.com
P.O. Box 801
Vashon Island, WA 98070

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SEP 27 2005

9/22/05 Public Disclosure Commission

To: Public Disclosure Commission

I AM APPALLED BY THE ENCLOSED OBVIOUS
ENDORSEMENT OF A CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC ELECTION
BY THE LOCAL FIRE DEPT. IF NOT ILLEGAL, IT
IS CERTAINLY UNETHICAL & DEFINITELY IN BAD
TASTE.

Please Review —

Yours truly,
Dick
Dick Franklio

P.O. Box 487
VASHON, WA 98070
206-463-2435

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OCT - 3 2005

Public Disclosure Commission

FREDERIC P. & BARBARA F. STODDARD

5932 SW 248th Street
Vashon, WA 98070
Phone 206 463 9717
Fax 206 463 0582

September 29, 2005

Public Disclosure Committee
711 Capitol Way, Room 206
P. O. Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504

Attention: Mr. Tony Perkins

Dear Mr. Perkins,

We would like to register a formal complaint against Sharonlee Nicholson and Vashon Island Fire and Rescue. Ms. Nicholson is running as an incumbent for position number 4 for a seat on the Vashon Island Fire and Rescue Fire Commissioner Board. She is in a hotly contested race for this position and at this time is behind her opponent almost 2 to 1.

One day after the primary election we received the enclosed brochure. It is our belief, that the brochure was designed to reach the public before the primary election, however, through some quirk of fate it was delayed. Public money was used to produce and mail this brochure which has no other Board Commissioners name or statements. This is a violation of the campaign laws of our state.

We would appreciate anything you could do to remedy this blatant misuse of public money. Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Frederic P. Stoddard
Barbara F. Stoddard
Enclosure

R. W. TURNER
26734 94th Av.
Vashon, WA 98070
(206) 463-5491

28 Sep 2005

Public Disclosure Commission
711 Capitol Way, Room 206
P.O. Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504-0908

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SEP 29 2005

Public Disclosure Commission

Attn: Mr. Tony Perkins

Dear Mr. Perkins:

I request your organization investigate Vashon Fire District Commissioner candidate SharonLee Nicholson for possible disclosure violations. Attached please find a copy of the "FireLine News" a Vashon Island Fire & Rescue publication dated September 2005. This publication was received by Vashon voters just before or the day of the primary election.

This unscheduled publication features an article highlighting Ms. Nicholson . The comments made are nothing less than what you would expect to see in a candidates brochure. As I understand it, candidates are limited to the amount of money that can be spent to promote themselves. Certainly this limit has been exceeded when you consider the cost involved in the production and mailing this document. Moreover, the use of public funds for self-promotion, no matter how it is framed must be illegal. As a candidate for D13 Fire Commissioner, Position 1, I believe Ms. Nicholson and the district's administration have effectively degraded the spirit and intent of the Public Disclosure Commission's mission.



R. W. TURNER

RECEIVED

OCT 10 2005

Public Disclosure Commission

Islanders for Representative Fire Leadership
P.O. Box 1531
Vashon, WA 98070
www.irfl.org

To Whom It May Concern,

As President of the above organization, it has been my responsibility to monitor and report on the was Vashon Island Fire & Rescue, governed by a Board of Fire Commissioners on Vashon and Maury Islands.

The current chair of that Board is Sharon Lee Nicholson, an appointee with a tainted past and an established record of disdain for election law. Having lost an election to this Board some four years ago, Nicholson was appointed by like-minded cohorts when the Board was expanded. Two years ago, she conspired with her friend and Editor of the local paper, Allison Arthur, to plant a false story alleging that a PDC complaint had been made against me and Craig Harmeling, who were running for election to the Board at that time. No such complaint existed, which was confirmed with your office at that time; Arthur refused to correct the story. Nicholson, as proxy for Fire Chief Jim Wilson, opposed our election for fear of any opposition to their empire-building. As an independent taxing district, VIF&R has virtually no oversight or restraint.

One year ago, when a vacancy had been created on the Board due to a resignation, Nicholson placed an improper and totally inappropriate personal phone call to Harmeling, demanding that he remove his name from contention for the vacancy.

Most recently Nicholson has conspired with VIF&R to spend taxpayer monies to finance and mail a thinly disguised election pamphlet to promote her own candidacy. It is my understanding that your office has received other complaints concerning her latest deception and that your office has been supplied with a copy.

Now I have received, as President of IRFL, the enclosed threat from the attorney representing the Board, chaired by Nicholson. This letter is a blatant attempt to stifle any opposition or free speech that may embarrass VIF&R or hinder Nicholson's election.

I would, therefore, like to register an official complaint concerning Nicholson's behavior, illegal conduct and abuse of public funds. Please let me know as soon as possible if any other documentation may be required to support my contentions. Feel free to contact me at the numbers listed below if you have any questions.



Joel M. Wade
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joelwade@centurytel.net